

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1758

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AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

/AMCONGEN ISTANBUL 831

AMCONSUL IZMIR

USMISSION USNATO

DIRNSA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

CINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

CINCUSAFE

/CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

S E C R E T ANKARA 9330

EXDIS

MILITARY ADEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

E.O. 11652: GDS-3 INDEFINITE

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, MARR, TU, US

SUBJECT: TURKISH BASE NEGOTIATION: CONVERSATION WITH MFA

SECGEN ELEKDAG

1. I SPOKE TO MFA SECGEN ELEKDAG MORNING OF DECEMBER 22 TO TELL
HIM THAT, AS A RESULT OF MY CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY
KISSINGER IN LONDON, I HOPED SOON TO BE IN A POSITION TO
TALK PRIVATELY WITH HIM RE WHAT STEPS USG MIGHT REALISTICALLY
BE ABLE TO OFFER RE "GUARANTEES" AND AID LEVELS. BECAUSE OF
COMPLEXITY OF THIS PROBLEM AND
CONSTITUTIONAL INHIBITIONS INVOLVED, I DID NOT THINK I WOULD BE
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IN A POSITION TO TALK WITH HIM UNTIL IMMEDIATELY AFTER

THE NEW YEAR. ELEKDAG INDICATED SOME CONCERN THAT WE COULD NOT REPEAT NOT COMMENCE THIS EFFORT EARLIER.

2. ELEKDAG SAID THAT JUST PRIOR TO AND DURING MY ABSENCE IN LONDON, HE HAD PERSONALLY WORKED VERY HARD ON THE SUBSTANCE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND WAS CONTINUING TO DO SO. HE INDICATED THAT THE CHANGES GOT HAD PUT FORWARD IN THE ASULA/GARDNER TALKS WITH RESPECT TO (A) COMMAND AND CONTROL, (B) RESIDUAL VALUE, AND (C) NATIONAL EMERGENCY PROVISIONS WERE THE RESULT OF EXTENSIVE MEETINGS IN HIS (ELEKDAG'S) OFFICE AND REPRESENTED A BONA FIDE EFFORT BY GOT OFFICIALS TO MEET OUR CONCERNS IN THESE AREAS. GOT COUNTER-CONFERNS IN EACH OF THESE AREAS WERE DEEP AND SERIOUS, SO THIS HAD NOT BEEN EASY, HE SAID.

3. ELEKDAG ADDED THAT HE WAS NOW WORKING ON A GUARANTEE FORMULA WHICH HE EXPECTED TO BE ABLE TO PASS TO ME IN NEXT FEW DAYS. WHEN HE SAID HE INTENDED TO DO THIS IN WRITING, I SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF BOTH HE AND I STAYED AWAY FROM WRITTEN DOCUMENTS IN OUR EARLY PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS OF THIS MOST THORNY ISSUE. (DESPITE MY COMMENT, HOWEVER, I WAS LEFT WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT ELEKDAG WILL BE GETTING A PIECE OF PAPER TO ME ON THIS SUBJECT SOON.)

4. ELEKDAG WAS PLEASED ABOUT GENERAL HAIG'S HAVING DISCUSSED THE BASE ISSUE WITH GENERAL SANCAR IN BRUSSELS. AS A RESULT, ELEKDAG HAD BEEN ASKED TO MEET WITH GENERAL SANCAR LATER IN THE DAY (I.E., MONDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 22) TO GO OVER WITH HIM A NUMBER OF THE MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. ELEKDAG WELCOMED THIS OPPORTUNITY BECAUSE, HE SAID, "I DO NOT THINK GENERAL SANCAR HAS BEEN KEPT ACCURATELY INFORMED BY HIS SENIOR STAFF CONCERNING A NUMBER OF THESE ISSUES."

5. COMMENT: I DO NOT REPEAT NOT THINK ELEKDAG'S COMMENTS TO ME ARE SIMPLY PSYCHOLOGICAL PLOYS IN OUR ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS. ON THE CONTRARY, I BELIEVE HE
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IS HONESTLY TRYING TO NARROW THE GAP. THE DIFFICULTY, OF COURSE, IS THAT THE TURKS' EFFORTS TO BE FLEXIBLE, EVEN WHERE BONA FIDE, ARE OFTEN DISAPPOINTINGLY LIMITED IN NATURE. NEVERTHELESS, I BELIEVE THAT TURKISH NEGOTIATORS HAVE RECENTLY MADE A GENUINE EFFORT TO DISPLAY SOME FLEXIBILITY ON THE COMMAND-AND-CONTROL AND RESIDUAL-VALUE ISSUES. WHILE WE DO NOT HAVE TO ACCEPT THEIR COUNTERPROPOSALS, I THINK THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE DISPLAY A CONCURRENT

FLEXIBILITY OF OUR OWN.

6. I AM ALSO MOST ANXIOUS T HAVE SOONEST WASHINGTON'S
THINKING RESPECTING WHAT I CAN SAY TO ELEKDAG ON
"GUARANTEES." AS INDICATED ABOVE, HE IS NOW DEVELOPING
WITHIN THE GOT A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL ON THIS SUBJECT AND
IT IS IMPORTANT THAT HE NOT REPEAT NOT GET TOO FAR
DOWN THAT ROAD WITHOUT BEING FIRST EXPOSED
IN SOME DETAIL TO OUR OWN THINKING AND TO THE REALITIES
WHICH CIRCUMSCRIBE WHAT CAN BE DONE IN THIS AREA.

MACOMBER

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